

# FGGM Adverse Weather Status Details

**The installation's goal is to make an installation status call by 4 a.m.**

In addition to the Digital Garrison app and the Fort Meade website scroll, weather status announcements will be made on Facebook, Twitter Alert, local tv and radio outlets and through the recorded Meade weather line at 301-677-MEAD or 301-677-6323.

The Fort Meade Home Page will not be updated when there are overnight weather events. Please use an alternative notification system for installations status information.

All weather announcements are for the Fort Meade Garrison. Tenant organizations have separate weather policies.

**OPM Status:** Fort Meade does NOT follow the OPM adverse weather guidance as the OPM-NCR announcements target agencies inside the "Washington Capital Beltway." OPM announcements are taken into consideration as part of the Fort Meade decision-making process but only decisions made by the Garrison Commander are announced in the Fort Meade adverse weather status.

There are four basic installation status categories: Early Release, Delayed Arrival, Delayed Opening and Reduced Operations.

**EARLY RELEASE:** An early release may be announced when driving conditions within the Fort Meade commuting area are forecasted to be, or will potentially become, hazardous. Personnel will be released from duty in time to avoid the hazardous travel conditions. Early release does not apply to personnel deemed to be in critical positions.

**DELAYED ARRIVAL:** Delayed arrival is authorized when roads in the commuting area are hazardous and employees are authorized additional time to safely commute from home to the workplace. Delayed arrival is based

on the employee's normal commuting time. For example, when a two-hour delayed arrival is announced, an employee with a normal 7:30 a.m. start time would be required to arrive by 9:30 a.m. and the employee would be granted up to two hours excused absence (LV).

**CYS Policy for Delayed Arrival:** When Garrison implements a Delayed Arrival, children of emergency personnel will be given priority service. The center will only accept children of non-emergency personnel during the delayed arrival time as staffing permits.

**DELAYED OPENING:** A delayed opening is announced when roads and parking lots on post are deemed very hazardous and installation snow removal operations require additional time to make travel on post as safe as possible. A specific time of arrival will be announced and employees should not report to work until the scheduled time of arrival. For example, when a 10 a.m. opening is announced, an employee who normally starts at 7:30 a.m. should not arrive until 10 a.m. Employees will be granted administrative leave (LV) for the period of work they missed between their normal scheduled arrival time and the time of the delayed opening.

**CYS Policy for Delayed Opening:** CYS opens at a designated time. CYS employees report 30 minutes prior to delayed opening.

**REDUCED OPERATIONS:** Reduced operations are announced when weather and road conditions become so severe or unsafe that all but specified functions are curtailed or closed. Critical personnel are still required to report to duty. All other personnel are granted excused absence (LV) unless they have telework capability, then they must telework.

**CYS Policy for Reduced Operations:** All child care facilities will be closed. In the event alternate care arrangements are made and paid for, CYS Services will credit your account for the difference in fees. You will need to provide your receipt for care to your center in order to receive credit.

**Unscheduled Leave or Unscheduled telework:** When unscheduled leave or unscheduled telework is authorized, employees with permission from their supervisor, may take leave or perform telework from home.

Gate hours of operation: Unless a Delayed Opening is ordered which specifies a specific time for the installation to open, gates will not close and hours of operations will not change during weather events. During Delayed Opening, entrance to the installation may be restricted until installation roads and parking lots can be prepared for use.

The Post Exchange, Shoppettes and The Commissary strive to stay open for the public during weather events. Current status of these operations will be posted on the Fort Meade app and Facebook page at

[www.facebook.com/ftmeade](http://www.facebook.com/ftmeade).

### **Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center Weather Policy:**

Inclement weather operational status at Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center (KACC) is determined by the KACC Commander. These decisions typically, but not invariably, mirror the installation's status.

Once a weather decision is made, the KACC status is posted on the Kimbrough Facebook page <https://m.facebook.com/KimbroughCARES/>

Any patients who wish to cancel or reschedule their appointment due to weather or other reasons may call our appointment line at 301-677-8800.

- **Delayed opening, Delayed arrival and Reduced Operations:** If one of these plans is declared by the KACC commander, patient appointments falling within the affected hours will be canceled. As soon as possible after normal operations are resumed, clinics will contact the patients whose appointments were canceled to reschedule their appointments for the earliest possible date.

- **OR/Same Day Surgery:** Scheduled surgeries falling within the affected hours will be canceled. Patients who have been scheduled for surgery will be notified of the cancellations and informed that their surgeries will be rescheduled by their individual surgeons.

(1) *If there are patients undergoing/recovering from surgery.* If patients are in surgery or recovering, the staff personnel necessary to care for those patients will remain until all patients are discharged. (2) *If there are patients*

*awaiting surgery.* If the commander or his or her designated representative declares reduced operations and there are patients awaiting surgery, the chief, or other individual in charge, will contact the commander or his or her designated representative for a determination as to whether the procedure(s) should be performed or canceled. If canceled, the patients will be informed that, for their own welfare, because of adverse weather conditions, their surgeries have been cancelled and to contact the clinic or the surgeon for rescheduling.

- **Reduced Operations:** if the commander declares Reduced Operations and there are patients in the clinic awaiting treatment, all non-mission essential personnel who are required to assist in the patients' treatment will be required to remain in the clinic until all patients have departed. Clinic chiefs may also require other non-mission essential personnel (that is, personnel not directly involved in patient treatment) to remain until all patients have departed if they determine it is in the best interest of the patients and the clinic.

Any patients whose procedures were cancelled due to closure, will be contacted as soon as possible to facilitate rescheduling.